

Volunteerism and Community Action

Dr. Trudi R. Grin, M.D.

Dr. Thomas Dooley



- "Dedicate some of your life to others. It will not be a sacrifice. It will be an exhilarating experience because it is an intense effort applied toward a meaningful end."

Medical Missions Foundation



Medical Missions Foundation

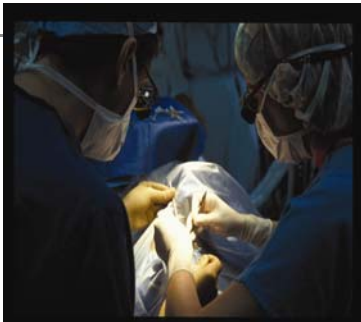
- Non-profit, non-sectarian, grass-roots NGO
- Began in 1996



- Provide medical and surgical care to indigent people of developing and economically depressed countries.



- Ensure ongoing surgical and medical care through teaching and donations of medical supplies.



Medical Missions Foundation

- Small support staff
- Most volunteers pay their own travel expenses
- Supported by fundraising within the organization, donations and small grants





- Since 1996, thousands of children and adults have been treated
- > \$10 million in medical equipment and supplies donated
- 28 successful medical trips

Countries

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| ■ China | ■ Mexico |
| ■ Croatia | ■ Philippines |
| ■ Cuba | ■ Romania |
| ■ Guatemala | ■ Vietnam |



Why NGO's?

- Are formed because of a need and passion for addressing social challenge
- NGO's are a unifying force
- Play a strategic role in strengthening civil society



Value of NGO's

- Can be much more effective at local levels
- Often are able to attract more funding
- Build relationships of trust and confidence between them and the poorer factions of the community they are part of



Accountability

- NGO's are most effective when they operate openly and are accountable.
- NGO's have a responsibility to preserve public trust.
- "Open Door" Policy
- Accountable to donors



Accountability equals Sustainability




Accountability Tools

- Financial Reports
- Self Regulation
- Communication Plan
- Annual Report
- Printed Public Relation materials



International Visitor Alumni Association and the Future



"In the twenty-first century I believe the mission of the United Nations will be defined by a new, more profound awareness of the sanctity and dignity of every human life, regardless of race or religion. This will require us to look beyond the framework of states and beneath the surface of nations and communities. We must focus, as never before, on improving the conditions of the individual men and women who give the State or nation its richness and character."

-Kofi Annan, Nobel Laureate

